

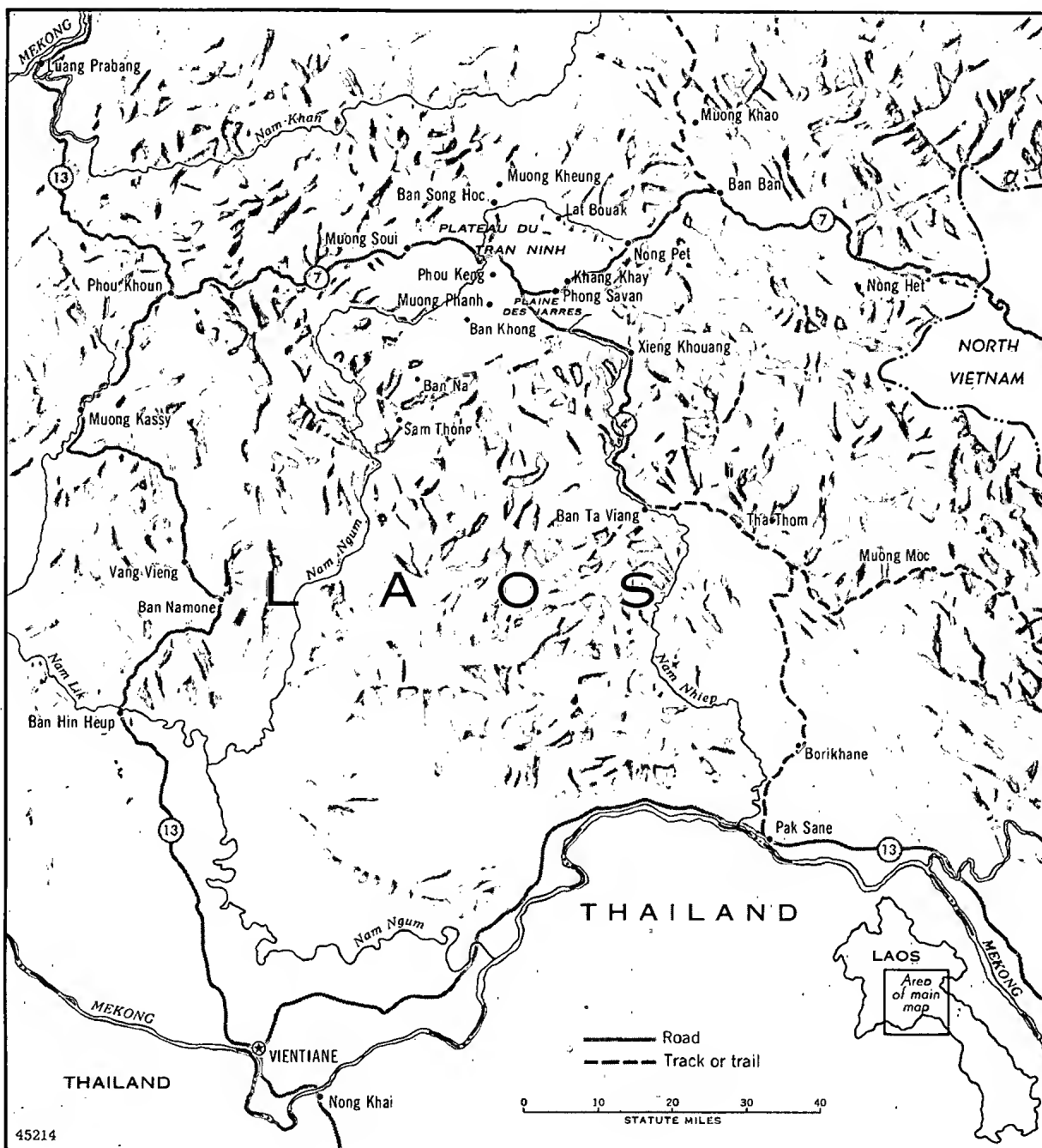
THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25 MAY 1964
~~TOP SECRET~~

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1. Laos

a. Neutralist forces continue to fall back.

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b. They have now abandoned Muong Kheung, on the northern edge of the Plaine des Jarres in the face of the Pathet Lao threat we reported Saturday.

c. Communist troops advancing on Muong Soui may be trying to cut off the withdrawing force, which includes two battalions and 23 tanks.

d. Press reports that Muong Soui has also been given up

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The neutralists were last planning to make a stand a few miles to the east.

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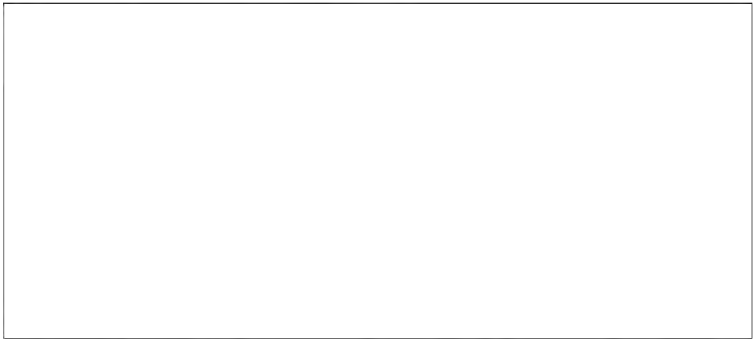
e. Kong Le intends to hole up in the Meo mountain stronghold of Ban Na, where he feels safe, and has resisted Vientiane's pressure to send reinforcements to Muong Soui.

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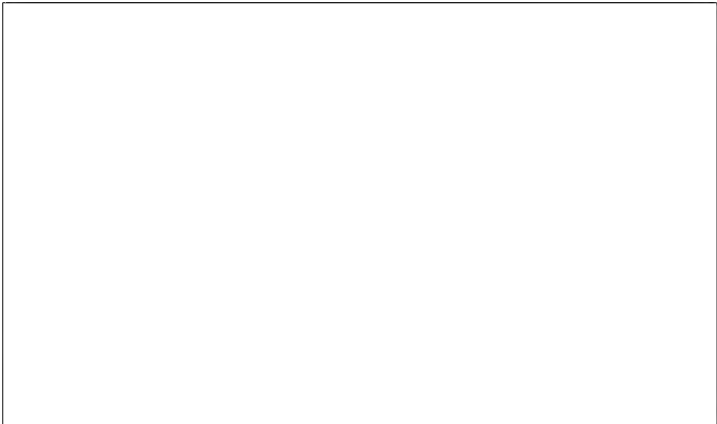


i. In the highly charged atmosphere of Vientiane, rumors of another rightist putsch, of major military drives on the capital, and of threats against Americans are circulating freely.

2. Cyprus

a. There seems to be more than propaganda behind all the hints recently from Greek Cypriot leaders about an arms deal with Moscow.

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d. Large-scale Soviet military aid would create sizable international complications for the USSR. The Greeks would disapprove as much as the Turks.

e. The buildup of small arms in both Cypriot camps goes on. [redacted] 51 truckloads of arms arrived in Nicosia Friday for the Greek Cypriots,

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f. Shipments of arms and men are also continuing to reach the Turkish Cypriots from the mainland. Their clandestine radio is again showing interest in the landing beaches and defenses around Famagusta. We have no indications, however, that Turkish intervention is imminent.

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3. Congo

a. Leopoldville now seems to have lost altogether what little control it has had over the situation in Kivu Central.

b. Defense Minister Anany and acting commander Lundula returned from the area Saturday with news that the army was in mutiny, or at least was refusing to fight. Adoula [redacted] could count on only 3 or 4 men in his whole battalion there. He is now replacing them with para-commandos.

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(Cont'd)

c. UN commanders, who think they can clean up the mess in short order, are ready to send in a Nigerian unit if Leopoldville decides to ask for help. Six US T-28 aircraft will arrive Wednesday to strengthen Adoula's hand.

d.
 a grim picture of conditions in Kivu, with some possibility that the provincial capital of Bukavu may go the way of Uvira, which recently fell to the rebels.

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4. South Vietnam

a. Khanh's government now is bracing for trouble from Catholic groups who are about to start campaigning for equality and protection against the militant Buddhists.

b. Some Catholics are looking to Buddha's birthday on Tuesday as an occasion for demonstrations. The more extreme Buddhist elements, who were threatening to demonstrate themselves earlier this month, probably would not be averse to shedding a little blood for the cause.

(Cont'd)

c. Khanh has tried to take a balanced line on religious issues, but many Catholics still fear retaliation for alleged sins of the Diem regime. They also are convinced that the Communists are behind the recent infighting between militant and moderate Buddhists.

d. The government has placed several military units on alert this week

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5. Cuba

a. High-altitude photography taken on Friday and Saturday shows that nearly all armored units have been removed from several major military camps in eastern Cuba and in the Havana area. They probably have been sent to defensive positions along the coast.

b. Three surface-to-air and one coastal defense missile sites have been evacuated, presumably because they were vulnerable to raids from the sea.

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c. Heavy patrol traffic in the wake of the alert has led to some confusion. Naval patrol boats have been chasing other Cuban craft mistaken for invaders, and we now know of two Cuban patrol planes shot down by the defenders.

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NOTES

- A. South Korea There were more student demonstrations in Seoul today. Ambassador Berger reports the government "rapidly moving toward internal and external crisis" of major proportions. It now appears that Kim Chong-pil was behind the paratroop episode, [REDACTED] which seems to have set fire to the situation.
- B. British Guiana No serious racial violence has occurred since the state of emergency was declared Friday. Reinforcements from London have arrived. Jagan has made a half-hearted appeal for order, but we doubt he will abandon his efforts to make elections this year impossible.
- C. UK-USSR [REDACTED] the \$140 million worth of contracts with Britain's Imperial Chemical Industries recently announced will be followed by even larger ones with the rival synthetic fibers concern of Courtaulds.
- D. Libya Rumor has it in Tripoli that Prime Minister Muntassir is on the way out. The King is unhappy because Muntassir has too often bowed to public pressure on the base issue. This does not mean, however, that a successor would be any less vulnerable to such pressures.

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